

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: ) Examiner: **not assigned**  
Hungerpillar, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3651  
Serial No: 10/057,608 ) Attorney Docket No.: R105 1010.1  
Filed: 01/24/2002 )  
For: System and Method for Processing Returned Mail

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Examiner's Action for the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims 1, 2, 7, 9 - 11, 16, 18 - 20, and 22 - 27, as set forth below, for claim claims 1, 2, 7, 9 - 11, 16, 18 - 20, and 22 - 27 as originally filed in the above-identified application. A copy of the amended claim showing the amendments made thereto, including additions being shown with underlining and deletions being shown in brackets, is attached in the appendix herewith.

*B*  
*A1*  
*sub*  
*cy*

A method for processing a plurality of undeliverable mail items comprising the steps of:  
encoding data including identification information on each of a plurality of mail  
items prior to mailing;

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